

LK copy

16 December 1958

Executive Registry
10-9714

Major General John M. Willems
Asst. Chief of Staff for Intelligence
Rm. 2E464
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C.

Dear John:

Reference our conversation the other day, I failed to telephone you on Friday as I intended to do and when I called on Monday I was informed that you would be away until this coming Friday.

With reference to including the suggested draft subparagraph 7.c. in the DCID 5/1, after considering it I do not think it would be acceptable because it would permit a department or agency to initiate an operation even if the Director of Central Intelligence himself considered it harmful or undesirably duplicative. The basic effect would also be to exempt from the Director's coordinating authority any intelligence activity a department Intelligence Chief claimed was conducted to satisfy departmental needs.

All this would be contrary to the provisions of NSCID 5 and would certainly be contrary to the whole effort of the President's Board to enhance the authority of the Director of Central Intelligence. It would also be contrary to specific desires which the President himself has expressed.

As I remarked the other day, I think that the revised documents afford all departments and agencies all the protection they could ever require. I am hopeful, therefore, that you will suggest any other changes you consider desirable in these DCIDs and let us get them through the Board.

I certainly enjoyed talking to you the other day.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

15/

L. K. Truscott, Jr.
General, USA (Ret.)

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12 December 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Truscott

SUBJECT : General Willems Proposed (New) Paragraph 7.c. in
DCID No. 5/1

The proposed paragraph is unacceptable because:

(1) It would permit a department or agency to initiate clandestine intelligence activities even if the DCI, himself, considered them harmful or undesirably duplicative.

(2) The basic effect of the proposed paragraph would be to exempt from the DCI's coordinating authority any clandestine intelligence activity a departmental intelligence chief claimed was conducted to satisfy a "departmental need."

(3) It goes well beyond the authority given to commanders in the field under present sub-paragraph 7.c. which allows them to initiate action pending resolution in Washington. General Willems provision would allow the Army to go ahead without the necessity for any consideration or resolution in Washington.



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